



CHARTER of the
BIG DATA INTERAGENCY WORKING GROUP

SUBCOMMITTEE ON NETWORKING AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY RESEARCH AND
DEVELOPMENT
COMMITTEE ON TECHNOLOGY
NATIONAL SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY COUNCIL

A. Official Designation

The Big Data (BD) Interagency Working Group (IWG) is hereby established by action of the Subcommittee on Networking and Information Technology Research and Development (NITRD) of the National Science and Technology Council (NSTC) Committee on Technology (CoT)¹.

B. Purpose

The BD IWG coordinates NITRD agency research and development in large-scale data management and analysis (“big data”).

C. Objectives

- Coordinate Federal big data R&D programs and budgets through, for example, program and portfolio reviews, joint program management, agency presentations on developing programs, and agenda-building workshops.
- Identify big data R&D requirements across the Federal Government, and develop a common set of best practices and support structures for data capture, curation, management, and access.
- Support the execution of the 2016 Big Data R&D Strategic Plan:
 - Conduct joint planning (e.g., workshops, solicitations, proposal reviews).
 - Develop a joint research roadmap for the Strategic Plan.
 - Lead discussions on the Strategic Plan at academic workshops and conferences.

D. Functions

The BD IWG shall perform the following functions:

- Across-agency coordination:

¹ The NSTC/CoT/NITRD was originally chartered on December 10, 1991. The most recent charter was signed July 10, 2013.

- Coordinate and collaborate across Federal agencies, other NITRD bodies, and other NSTC committees as appropriate on issues of mutual interest.
 - Develop and maintain strong and forward-looking agendas that represent the current and future evolution of Information Technology Research and Development (IT R&D).
 - Identify interagency and cross-cut opportunities for collaboration, coordination, and leveraging among agencies in specific areas in IT R&D.
 - Provide a forum for agencies to exchange program-level information about agency activities (Annual Planning Meeting or Data Call).
 - Select and maintain collegial leadership and dynamic membership.
- Work with the NITRD Program:
 - Develop, maintain, and periodically update interagency short-, mid-, and/or long-range strategic plans and priorities.
 - Participate and support NITRD outreach (workshops, conferences, and other meetings) to support the IWG's agenda.
 - Prepare and maintain an active charter with a specific purpose and objectives.
 - Provide inputs to NITRD's annual Supplement to the President's Budget.
 - Provide inputs to NITRD's annual Activities Report summarizing the BD IWG's activities.
 - Schedule and participate in regularly scheduled and ad hoc meetings, and maintain documentation of the meeting discussions.
- Work with other stakeholders:
 - Assist and support the NITRD Subcommittee in responding to the recommendations of the President's Council of Advisors on Science and Technology (PCAST), and responding to inquiries from NSTC, Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP), Office of Management and Budget (OMB), and Congress.
 - Provide inputs to NSTC strategic and Federal Plans when requested.

E. Membership

The following NITRD Member agencies are represented on the BD IWG²:

- Department of Commerce;
- Department of Defense;
- Department of Energy;
- Department of Health and Human Services;
- Department of Homeland Security;

² Changes to membership may occur without requiring a charter amendment. After charter ratification, membership and changes to membership may be tracked in a separate document.

- Environmental Protection Agency;
- National Science Foundation; and
- National Security Agency.

The following components of the Executive Office of the President may also be represented on the BD IWG:

- Office of Management and Budget; and
- Office of Science and Technology Policy.

Federal departments, agencies, and councils that participate in the BD IWG's activities include:

- Department of the Interior;
- United States Agency for International Development; and

such other Executive organizations, departments, and agencies as the NITRD Subcommittee or IWG Co-chairs may designate as appropriate.

F. Leadership

The Co-chairs of the BD IWG shall be named and approved by the NITRD Subcommittee Co-chairs.

G. Private-Sector Interface

The BD IWG may work with appropriate private-sector³ entities, including the President's Council of Advisors on Science and Technology, and will recommend to the NITRD Subcommittee the nature of any additional private-sector advice needed to accomplish its mission. The BD IWG may interact with and receive *ad hoc* advice from various private-sector groups, consistent with the Federal Advisory Committee Act.

H. Resources

The NITRD NCO shall provide project management, technical, information technology/networking, and administrative support services to the BD IWG as part of its responsibilities to the NITRD Subcommittee.

I. Termination

Unless renewed by the Co-chairs of the NITRD Subcommittee prior to its expiration, the Big Data Interagency Working Group shall terminate no later than December 30, 2017.

³ The Federal Advisory Committee Act, 5 U.S.C. App., as amended, does not explicitly define "private sector", but the phrase is generally understood to include individuals or entities outside the Federal government such as, but not limited to, the following: non-Federal sources, academia, State, local or tribal governments, individual citizens, the public, non-governmental organizations, industry associations, and international bodies.

J. Determination

I hereby determine that the establishment of the Big Data Interagency Working Group is in the public interest in connection with the performance of duties imposed by the Executive Branch by law, and that such duties can be performed through the advice and counsel of such a group.

Approved:

Keith A. Marzullo, Ph.D. 3/1/16
Co-chair
Subcommittee, Networking and Information
Technology R&D

James Kurose, Ph.D. 3/2/16
Co-chair
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